

# HOUSE BILL 925

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By: **Delegates Carter, Howard, O'Donnell, and Shank**

Introduced and read first time: February 12, 2010

Assigned to: Judiciary

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Family Law – Child Custody Determinations**

3 FOR the purpose of creating a rebuttable presumption that certain custodial  
4 arrangements are in the best interest of the child in certain child custody  
5 proceedings; and generally relating to child custody determinations.

6 BY adding to

7 Article – Family Law

8 Section 9–109

9 Annotated Code of Maryland

10 (2006 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
12 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

13 **Article – Family Law**

14 **9–109.**

15 **IN AN INITIAL CHILD CUSTODY PROCEEDING, WHETHER PENDENTE LITE**  
16 **OR PERMANENT, INVOLVING THE PARENTS OF A CHILD, THERE IS A**  
17 **REBUTTABLE PRESUMPTION THAT:**

18 **(1) JOINT LEGAL CUSTODY IS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE**  
19 **CHILD; AND**

20 **(2) PHYSICAL CUSTODY TO EACH PARENT FOR APPROXIMATELY**  
21 **EQUAL PERIODS OF TIME IS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CHILD.**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
2   October 1, 2010.